



# GREECE WEDDING REQUIREMENTS

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

# √ FULL BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Both parties must obtain a 'full' Birth Certificate as the 'shorter' version of the Birth Certificate will not be acceptable

- √ CERTIFICATE OF NO IMPEDIMENT TO MARRIAGE
  - This document certifies that both parties are <u>Single</u>, <u>Legally Eligible</u> and <u>Free to get married in Greece</u>. It can be obtained from their local Superintendent Registrar Office. It may take up to 1 month to obtain and the certificate must not be issued more than 3 months before the wedding day.
- √ MARRIAGE LICENCE
  - This specific document proves that both parties are Free to get married in Santorini (Greece). It is issued by their local government office, must have both names and be full completed and translated in Greek language.
- √ DECREE ABSOLUTE
  - If any of the parties is divorced, a Certified Copy of the Decree Absolute must be obtained.
- √ DEATH CERTIFICATE
  - If any of the parties is a widower, a Death Certificate must be obtained
- $\sqrt{}$  DEED POLL CERTIFICATE
  - If any of the parties has changed his/her name by Deed Poll, written proof must be obtained
- √ ADOPTION CERTIFICATE
  - This certificate is necessary if any of the parties was adopted
- √ BAPTISM CERTIFICATE
  - This certificate is necessary for Catholic Church & Orthodox Church weddings.

# TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS

All the above documents have to be translated in Greek at the Greek Embassy or Consulate and sent to our office four weeks before the wedding (the same needs to be done for the documents listed below concerning Catholic weddings). If the documents are not translated then have to be sent eight weeks before the ceremony and there will be an extra cost for the official translation.

## CIVIL WEDDINGS

The documents listed above must be obtained by the bride and groom then be translated in Greek with <u>stamp APOSTILLE on all of them</u> and forwarded to us least four weeks before the wedding.

# CATHOLIC CHURCH WEDDINGS

More details on the Required Documents for marriage in the Catholic Cathedral of Santrorini:

- $1. \ \textit{Baptism Certificate}: This \ \textit{document should be requested and dated close to wedding date}.$
- $2\,.\, {\it A Confirmation Certificate}.$
- 3. A Freedom to Marry Certificate: This document is the assurance that the couple is free from any canonical impediment for marriage.
  - a) The above certificates must be obtained from the parish priest in which both parties were baptized and must be dated within 3 months of their marriage
  - b) If the date of the confirmation is not written in the parish in which both parties were baptized, they should ask for it in the same parish in which they were confirmed.
  - c) Both parties must take the above certificates to their present parish priest who should make the prenuptial inquiries and catachetical instruction
- 4. Written permission must be obtained from the couple's Bishop to have their marriage performed out of their parish and here in Santorini. This is according to Canon 1115 of the Codex Juris Canonici. Please discuss with the couple's pastor.
- 5. Certificate stating that both parties have completed the "PRE-CAVA" instruction class, retreat or meetings.



## ORTHODOX CHURCH WEDDINGS

Orthodox church weddings can only be arranged if either the bride or groom is Orthodox and that both have been baptized. The couple must inform the Orthodox priest of their local parish of their intention to marry abroad. He will then need to view both parties' Birth Certificate and Baptism Certificate and confirm to them what further documentation is required. After they obtain all the necessary documents theymust forward them to Kamari Tours. We will than give the documents to the Orthodox priest of the Church where the ceremony will be performed.

# WITNESSES AT CEREMONY

Two witnesses are required for all types of weddings. If the groom and bride travel on their own, our Wedding Coordinators will be glad to act as witnesses.

#### DAY/TIME OF THE CEREMONY

Discuss with our Wedding Coordinators about your preferences and the different possibilities

## LANGUAGE OF THE CEREMONY

Civil ceremony in Greek or English. Catholic Church Ceremony in Greek, Italian or French. Orthodox Church Ceremony in Greek,

#### CIVIL MARRIAGE VALIDITY

In order for the marriage to be valid, after the wedding the couple must declare, at the Registry Office of Thira Community within forty days that the wedding has been performed.

#### OFFICIAL WEDDING CERTIFICATE

Civil marriage: the official certificate is issued within 3 working days after the wedding and is sent to Syros island for Apostille Stamps. Then it is forwarded to the married couple's home address by the Wedding Co-ordinator.

Catholic & Orthodox Church marriage: the priest who performed the ceremony issues the wedding certificate and forwards it to the priest of the local parish of the couple where the couple may receive it.

## WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR

Expert staff of ours will make all the arrangements on your behalf, do the bookings for your honeymoon prior to your travel date, and assist you for the local arrangements at the resort.

